



THE ROBINS REV-UP

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

June 24, 2005

Vol. 50 No. 25



INSIGHT



THE MACH READ

Six Flags Military Appreciation Days

Active duty service members, Reservists, or spouses may show a current ID card at any Six Flags over Georgia ticket booth to receive up to 5 free tickets; additional family members can receive a discounted rate of \$21.99. This offer does not include civilians, contractors or retirees. For more information, visit www.sixflags.com/georgia.

Army Day - Monday
Marine Corps Day - Tuesday
Navy and Coast Guard Day - Wednesday
Air Force Day - Thursday

MPF customers may have extended wait time

In an effort to better serve our customers the military personnel flight's customer service section will be upgrading three of its DEERS/RAPIDS computers Monday and Tuesday. During this period you may experience an extended wait time for CAC cards, dependent IDs, and DEERS transactions. Additionally, if you need to make address changes in DEERS, you can do so via DEERS online application by visiting <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/app/address/updateWGAddress.sjsp>. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this upgrade may cause.

Under construction

The area from Apollo Street to Seventh Street will be closed from July 5-10, for the installation of new electrical service to Building 795. For more information, contact Paul Clark, 778th Civil Engineer Squadron, at 926-3533 extension 28708.

ON TRACK

Aircraft Maintenance Output

The information below reflects Robins' progress toward maintenance goals for fiscal 2005 as of June 23.

C-17	13 completed; 8 scheduled; 5 unscheduled
8	goal** 12
C-5	20 completed; 15 scheduled; 8 unscheduled
15	goal 20
C-130	43 completed; 37 scheduled; 6 unscheduled
43	goal 55
F-15	72 completed; 70 scheduled; 2 unscheduled
70	goal 103

**Goal is for scheduled maintenance on-time delivery only; unscheduled aircraft don't count toward fiscal year goals.

Source: Doug Clark Jr., depot maintenance workload analyst, WR-ALCMAWVB

U.S. Air Force graphic by ANGELA TRUNZO

Program gives blood to deployed troops

By HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

A program that dates back to the 1950's is giving military and civilians a chance to give life-saving blood to military members serving their country today.

The Armed Services Blood Program Blood Drive will be held July 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Cotton Auditorium in Building 301 East Wing, and at the Smith Community Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Erin Hawkins, a donor recruiter with the program at Kendrick Memorial Blood Center in Fort Gordon, Ga., said the tri-service program, which provides blood to injured servicemembers in the Army, Navy and Air Force, allows people working on military installations to donate up to one pint of blood.

"Since its beginning, the program has been able to supply blood directly to the front line – and that's what we're designed to do," she said. "Since the Korean War, the military blood program has provided more than 1.5 million units of blood to treat sick and injured servicemembers on the battlefield. Today, we maintain fresh and frozen blood, so we can get those supplies to them rapidly and reliably."

The Department of Defense program has blood centers throughout the U.S., and outside the states, to collect blood to support the troops.

Staff Sgt. Colleen Day,

► see BLOOD, 2A

HOW TO DONATE BLOOD

The Armed Services Blood Program is a Defense Department-wide program that gives people working at military installations a chance to donate up to one pint of blood to servicemembers serving overseas and those being treated in military hospitals within the U.S. Those wishing to donate blood must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. Those who have traveled overseas extensively, have recently served overseas or served overseas from 1980 to 1996 for longer than six months may not give blood. Servicemembers returning from Middle East deployment must wait one year to donate. To schedule a donation time, contact Diane Gross at 926-6203. For more information about the program, contact the Kendrick Memorial Blood Center, at (706) 787-1011 or DSN 773-1011 or visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil.

Safety first



Above, Senior Airman James Reece uses a bench grinder to sharpen a metal part. Below, Tech. Sgt. Chris Littlejohn shows the circuit breaker going to the grinder that will trip the circuit in the event of a power outage.

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

78th LRS simple fixes make grinder safer

By HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

When the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron says they'll get right on something, they really mean it.

During Focused Augmentation and Risk Reduction (FARR) team's visit that ended in January, Airmen in the 78th LRS Vehicle Maintenance Section discovered minor problems with a two-wheel bench grinder used to sharpen and polish metal that could have caused serious injuries to 30 workers who use the equipment daily.

"The FARR team did a safety inspection and found the tongue-guard was out of adjustment and didn't have the electrical switch to cut it off (if there's a break in its electrical circuit)," said Tech. Sgt. Johnny Long, a noncommissioned officer in the section.

Sergeant Long, who is the NCOIC of the section's body shop, said the fix was a simple one that took only a few minutes.

"It was a matter of going to the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron Self Help and getting a power strip," he said. "Fixing the tongue guard was a matter of loosening two nuts and fitting them at the right angle."

Staff Sgt. Chris Littlejohn, 78th LRS Vehicle Maintenance Section NCOIC, said making the adjustments made the equipment safer to use.

"It greatly reduces the chance of people getting injured on the job," he said. "Once the guard was put in the correct measurement, it reduces people's chance of getting caught in



the wheel (of the grinder)."

To increase the safety of the equipment, Sergeant Long said the shop posted a sign next to the bench grinder, providing users with the Air Force Instruction guidance and checklist items.

"So, as a person gets ready to use (the bench

► see SAFETY, 2A

Airman awaits jury selection

Pretrial hearing ends with no plea, rulings

By LANORRIS ASKEW
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The second and last planned pretrial hearing for Senior Airman Andrew Witt ended Tuesday with no plea and no ruling on seven previous motions.

Airman Witt is charged with two counts of premeditated murder and one count of attempted murder in the July 5, slayings of Senior Airman Andrew Schliepsiek and his wife, Jamie. The hearing did end with two new motions to be considered by the military judge.

One of those two new motions involved the admissibility of a duplicate copy of the 911 call received from Andrew Schliepsiek's cell phone the morning of his death. The original tape has been lost or recorded over according to the Houston County 911 Call Center.

Defense counsel argued that since the Houston County 911 Call Center either lost or otherwise destroyed the original tape recording of the call and since the duplicate is not very clear and could have been altered, it should not be allowed into evidence.

"A motion was made to exclude that evidence based on the fact that the duplicate doesn't meet the requirements of the law to be admissible," said Frank Spinner, civilian defense counsel.

The government argued that the tape is an exact duplicate and brought in three witnesses to the fact. The witnesses, who all heard both the original and the copy, included Lt. Mikki Folds, 911 center assistant director, Special Agent Alexander Wildes, Robins Office of Special Investigations and Rita Coleman, the 911 operator who took the original call.

The defense must show that the government showed bad faith to exclude the evidence.

The other motion dealt with the admissibility of Airman Witt's confession.

"The problem is the government failed to record (the confession) through audio or visual means," said Mr. Spinner. "This is a legal issue not a factual issue."

► see AIRMAN, 2A

WHAT TO KNOW

According to Maj. Vance Spath, chief circuit trial counsel, the last Airman executed was in the '50s. The last Air Force death penalty case was U. S. vs. Simoy in 1990 where on appeal the death penalty was set aside leaving the convicted serving life in prison. No Air Force members are currently on death row.

THINK SAFETY

AIRMEN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING
To request a ride, call
335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236.

SLOW DOWN ► 342 speeding tickets have been issued to date. Accumulating 12 traffic violation points within a year may cause drivers to lose base driving privileges for up to 6 months. Speeding violation points are based on the number of miles over the posted speed limit.

WEATHER FORECAST

Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

TODAY 92/68		SATURDAY 90/68		SUNDAY 93/68	
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MORE IN BRIEF

Hunting area D permits

The lease on Hunting Area D has expired, and the Air Force determined that a license could be entered into by the landowner and the individuals wishing to hunt in this area. The newly proposed license was prepared by the Base Legal Office and is presently under review by the landowner. Contingent that the landowner agrees with the conditions of the license and signs the required documents, the 78th Services Division will be able to reopen Hunting Area D. Customers who requested a refund because of this inconvenience have received cash refunds. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 926-4001.

Demolition of Building 959 clears way for Commissary

During the week of July 5, Building 959, located north of the Commissary on Bonaire Street, will be demolished, marking an important first step of constructing a new Commissary for Robins. Targeted for award in late 2005 with construction to begin in early 2006, the new 70,000-square-foot Commissary will be located in the open area north and adjacent to the existing commissary. The building scheduled to be demolished housed members of the 5th Combat Communications Group. The group has relocated to Building 658, located along Quartermaster Street, which was renovated to accommodate not only the people in Building 959, but several other 5th CCG activities.

Enlisted job opportunities

The Air Force Senior Leadership Management Office is now accepting motivated enlisted applicants for enlisted aide positions at the following Air Force bases: Bolling, Lackland, Osan, Scott, and Wright Patterson. Second term Airmen (must have reenlisted), career Airmen, and Senior Airman through Master Sergeant may apply. For more eligibility and requirement information, contact the military personnel flight out-bound assignments section by calling 327-7361 (press 2, press 2 again, and then 1) or by e-mailing 78MSS/DPMARO@robins.af.mil.

DoD cautions servicemembers against ‘loan-shark’ lenders

By TERRI LUKACH
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The Defense Department has launched a new effort to educate servicemembers about the dangers of borrowing from “loan-shark” lending companies and to teach them how to avoid ending up in a spiral of compounding debt, a DoD official said here June 17.

The most prevalent type of loan-shark lending affecting servicemembers is what is known as “payday loans,” said John Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy. “A payday loan is essentially a plug – money that gets you from today to the next payday so you can cover your bills.”

The problem is that such loans are very expensive, he said.

“Typically, a payday loan of a \$100 will cost the borrower \$17 for two weeks,” he said. “The average payday loan is about \$500, so now we’re talking about a fee of \$85.

“By itself, that’s not a big problem,” he said. “However, when you consider that it is not uncommon for that military member to roll the loan over four or five times, that \$85 will grow exponentially to the point where you are paying an enormous amount of money for the relatively meager amount of the loan.

“It got you through payday, but if you weren’t able to pay it off, now it’s two more weeks, and two more weeks, and you’re paying nearly 500 percent interest annually,” he said. “That’s a lot of money to pay.”

Considering that about 9 percent of all enlisted servicemembers and 12 percent of all midlevel noncommissioned officers use payday loans, the potential for detrimental effect on mission accomplishment is very real, Mr. Molino said.

“If you’re in debt, you have

other things in mind,” he said. “You’re doing things other than concentrating on the mission; maybe you’re taking on other employment. The effects are long lasting and go deep into a person’s performance; it affects unit readiness.”

Part of the problem is the proximity of payday lenders to military installations.

“If you look at where they position their businesses, they are right outside the gate,” Mr. Molino said.

A recent study of 15,000 payday lenders in more than 13,000 ZIP codes in 20 states that have military installations revealed that payday lenders open their storefronts near the installations.

Mr. Molino said the department is taking steps, such as holding fairs at military installations, to educate servicemembers about the dangers of payday loans and familiarize them with ways to put themselves and their families on a sound financial footing.

“We can make (servicemembers) smarter,” he said. “We can make them better consumers; we can teach them how to save for a rainy day, so when they need to borrow they can – and pay themselves back at no interest. We are also doing something about payday lenders.”

Mr. Molino said his office is watching them closely, looking at behaviors and patterns that are inconsistent with state law and encouraging states to pass laws that are not only friendly to servicemembers but also require honesty and discipline on the part of payday lenders.

Mr. Molino said Georgia, Florida and Oklahoma are states that have taken positive action against payday lenders. In 2004, Georgia passed legislation that eliminated payday lending from the state, he said, while Florida and Oklahoma now require a 24-hour waiting period between payday loans, thus eliminating rollovers and multiple loans.

DoD launches sexual assault prevention Web site

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- Servicemembers who are victims of sexual assault or who need information on the Defense Department policy on preventing sexual assaults can find the information at a new Web site.

The site, www.sapr.mil, launched by Joint Task Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, is basically a place to go to for information, said Brig.

Gen. K.C. McClain, the task force commander.

The site has links to all the services' Web sites related to the sexual assault issue. It spells out what people can do if they are victims of sexual assault, the general said.

The site is more than just a reporting site. If anyone has questions about the policy, the answers are available on the Web site.

AIRMAN

Continued from 1A

Mr. Spinner said the goal is to come up with new law on this motion. Currently the Air Force is not legally bound to video or audio tape confessions or interviews.

“We have no claim that this was an involuntary or coerced confession,” said Mr. Spinner. “We do not dispute what was written in the transcript.”

Mr. Spinner did however say they may dispute additional comments claimed outside of the transcript.

Other issues discussed were the extent of the government’s sentencing case which involves victim impact evidence and how much will be able to be put on during the sentencing case and jury questionnaires.

BLOOD

Continued from 1A

one of the program’s noncommissioned officers, said the program is good for the military community.

“Because this is a military program and our focus is military, we’re limited to (taking blood from) those populations,” she said. “The program is really about military taking care of its

The judge did not rule on any of the motions.

Maj. Vance Spath, chief circuit trial counsel, U.S. Air Force eastern Judicial Circuit, Bolling air Force Base, Washington D.C., said he feels the day went fine.

“I think we’ve gotten most of the background work out of the way so we can get to trial on Sept. 13,” he said. “(The pretrial hearing is) very important because what it means is come Sept. 19 when we start putting on evidence, we won’t be interrupted with a lot of breaks. We’ll already know what we get in and what we don’t.”

Mr. Spinner agreed.

“Primarily the idea of having motions well in advance of trial is to make the whole process more efficient,” he said. “Once we know what the judge’s rulings are on particular

own.”

Donated blood is sent to Fort Knox, Ky., for testing and processing before it’s shipped to treat troops, Sergeant Day said.

According to Sgt. April Berrier, a blood donor NCO in the program, each person can donate only one pint of blood every 56 days.

Ms. Hawkins said every drop of blood helps.

“The average trauma victim uses 40 pints of blood,” she

pieces of evidence and instructions and things of that sort, then the trial should move much more efficiently and smoothly.”

What’s left now is to await rulings and prepare for voir dire, or jury selection.

Mr. Spinner said he expects rulings on the motions will be pretty close to trial date.

Fifteen members have been selected to go through jury selection in the case. All were chosen by the convening authority, Maj. Gen. Mike Collings, Center commander, and are all from Robins.

The court member pool includes everyone at Robins who is an active duty officer or Air Force Reserve Officer on Title 10 status.

Because this is a death penalty case there must be at least 12 jurors seated.

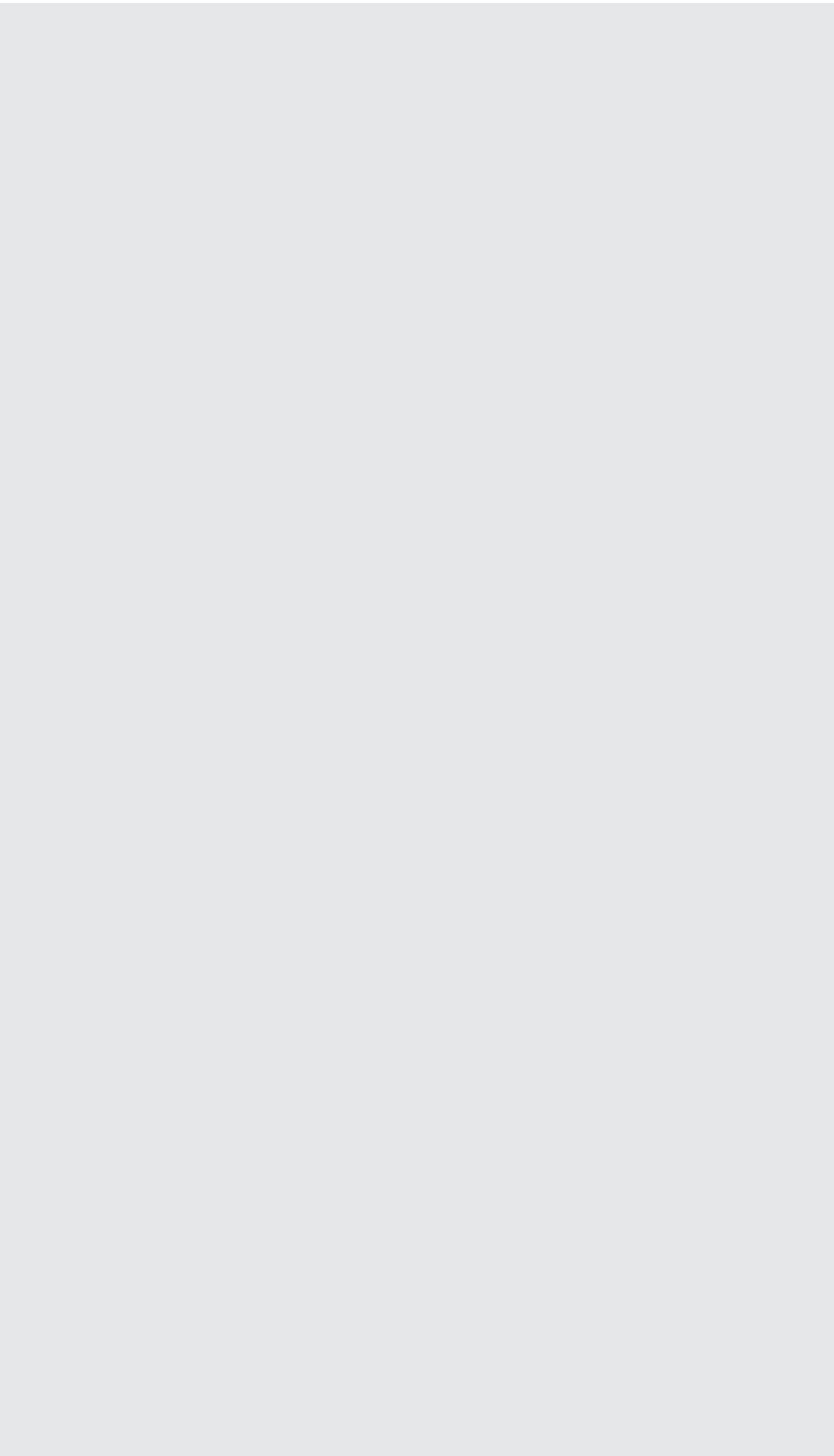
said. “That’s a donation from 40 different people.”

Diane Gross, Robins Blood Drive coordinator, said anyone who wants to participate should.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for Robins, because the blood collected at this drive is going to Iraq and Afghanistan and help our injured troops over there,” she said. “This is an event we all need to participate in.”

shows how Robins tackles safety issues head-on.

“It’s a good example of workers, management and safety working together to eliminate hazards,” he said. “They took the issue seriously and corrected the problem (almost immediately).”



Assistance available for employees potentially impacted by BRAC

Recognizing that the recent announcements associated with the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process may have raised concerns for some Robins employees, the Civilian Personnel Office reminds everyone that although no firm decisions have been made, there are people and programs in place to answer any questions you may have. The following is a list of support programs and Web sites available to assist employees who have concerns.

DoD programs

The DoD Web site, www.cpmosd.mil/bractransition, contains a comprehensive video and brochure which outlines the available programs, benefits and services available. The official DoD site, www.defenselink.mil/brac/, contains recent articles of interest, details of BRAC recommendations, and links to other related Web sites. The DoD Civilian Assistance and Re-Employment Program Web site at www.cpmosd.mil/care/homepage/html contains information on the following:

- The DoD Priority

Placement Program, an automated mandatory placement program used to match eligible well-qualified employees, most of who are subject to displacement, with vacant positions throughout DoD.

- DoD Reemployment Priority List
- Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and Voluntary Early Retirement Authority Policy
- Displaced Employee Guide (Benefits and Entitlements)

Military One Source is available to all military members and dependents at www.MilitaryOneSource.com, or by calling 1-800-342-9647. This service features live consultants who are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to answer questions and provide assistance on a variety of topics.

AFMC programs

The Employee Assistance Program, or EAP, is available at www.foh4you.com, or by calling 1-800-222-0364. EAP is a contracted service which provides up to six free and confidential counseling sessions for AFMC civilians (and in most

cases their immediate family). The point of contact for the Robins EAP is Lynn Irvine at 327-7683, or you can visit www.robins.af.mil/fsc/ids/employee_assistance_program.htm.

AF programs

AFPC's BRAC Web site, www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/brac/, contains information on a variety of BRAC topics.

Robins programs

The Robins BRAC page, <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/BRAC/index.htm>, features a link to questions and answers concerning BRAC, and links to other Web sites. The Robins Family Support Center is available to civilians, military and family members of both and offers the following:

- Assistance on jobs, moving, financial issues, family life, and family readiness.
- Transition assistance: job fairs, outplacement assistance, resume and interviewing training.
- Relocation assistance: Standard Installation Topics and Exchange Service containing information on DoD installations worldwide.

For Family Support Center services, contact Dan Wells or Kaye Mullis at 926-1256 or visit www.robins.af.mil/fsc. The Robins Life Skills Support Center is available to military members and families and provides counseling and assistance for emotional problems and mental health. Counselors can be reached at 327-8398 or www.robins.af.mil/78medgp/index.asp. The Robins Organizational Health Center is available to provide organizational consultation to assess the workplace environment and to provide change management and leadership development assistance. For more information, call Shay Giddy at 327-7681 or visit <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/ohc/index.asp>. The Civilian Health Promotion Service is available through the Federal Occupational Health/ Civilian Health Promotion Services office for all civilian employees. CHPS services focus on education, self-care, behavioral changes, and disease prevention. CHPS also features lifestyle modification advice and intervention. It offers a variety of services such as cho-

lesterol screening, lifestyle counseling, and wellness programs. The CHPS staff can customize services to civilian employees' particular health and fitness needs. For more information, call Lynn Oakes at 327-8031.

Housing survey to gauge resident satisfaction

By **LANORRIS ASKEW**
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The Robins Housing Office is urging all residents to take part in a recently mailed family housing resident satisfaction survey that could directly impact the future of Air Force housing. According to Johnna Phillips, family housing flight chief, the survey began earlier this month and is meant to measure resident satisfaction. Although distributed through a third party, CEL and Associates Inc., a consulting firm that conducts these surveys for private sector residents, the results will directly affect those who live in both on-base and privatized housing. “This survey basically lets us know how our residents feel about family housing and lets us know if there are things that we can be doing better,” said Mrs. Phillips. “The survey is very important because it lets our senior leaders in on those

WHAT TO KNOW

Any resident who may have misplaced their survey can contact CEL and Associates Inc. at (310) 571-3113 for a new survey.

feelings as well.” While the housing office is asking that everyone take part in the survey, the actual genesis of the initiative came from much higher up. “The survey is not a local or even command level initiative it is an Air Staff initiative,” said Mrs. Phillips. “The survey went out to both on-base and privatized housing residents and the results will be sent back to Robins’ housing office.” CEL and Associates Inc. will collect and evaluate the surveys. The results will be tabulated by neighborhood and provided to the housing office, Air Force Materiel Command and the Air Staff for evaluation and inclusion in any upcoming housing pro-

gram improvements. The contractor will collect and evaluate surveys and tabulate and analyze results before producing a statistical report and executive summary that will be generated for each installation. Data from the surveys will be used to measure resident satisfaction with existing property conditions, maintenance and services. It will give feedback on how well customers’ expectations are currently being met, and

also provide a baseline for measuring privatized projects’ performance in the future. While many may have already received the surveys, Mrs. Phillips said a letter from Col. Greg Patterson, 78th Air Base Wing commander, will also be arriving soon. “The letter’s purpose is to explain the surveys and to let everyone know they are important,” she said. “We do ask that (residents) fill them out and return them as soon as possible.”

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SUBMISSION
GUIDELINES

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CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, call The Telegraph at (478) 744-4234.

ONLINE

To read articles online, visit www.robins.af.mil/pa/revup-online/index.htm.

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U.S. Air Force photo

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq - Senior Airman Tim Beckham serves with the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs.

Proudly serving one day at a time

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq - It's 6:30 a.m., and I feel like I woke up in a strange place again. I slowly drag myself out of my bunk and get ready for work. I put on my uniform, helmet and vest and make my way through a long white hallway. I step outside and the heat hits me like a ton of bricks. I'm in Iraq.

Iraq. If you would have told me five years ago that I would be over here serving in the world's greatest Air Force I probably would have laughed in your face. I can't even really remember what choices I made that got me here, but I do know that I made the right choice.

Yes, the heat is awful, and yes you miss the comforts of home, but what most people don't grasp is that everyone here is in some way going through

the exact same thing as you.

We might all be coming from different bases, different career fields and even different cultures, but we still find a way to form a bond that only someone who has been deployed can understand.

Camaraderie has new meaning to me now. I think it has something to do with how much time we all spend with each other and how much you can learn about someone else in such a short period of time, but, it's also that feeling of common ground. We all have good and bad days but knowing that the person next to you may be going through the same thing gives you a small, but potent, sense of serenity and security.

Safety for myself, was one of my biggest concerns before I left, which made me feel a

little selfish, but after I got here I began to reflect on some of the stories my grandfather used to tell me about the time he spent overseas in World War II and suddenly, I started to appreciate how good we have it here. I mean they feed me well, I have plenty of time to sleep and despite what my mother may think there aren't bullets whizzing by my head all day.

I realize that for many men and women of the armed forces these things aren't a luxury, and for that I feel blessed, but the point I'm trying to get across is that it's easy to see what we don't have but it's more important to acknowledge what we do have.

I think of home often and sometimes daydream about what life used to be like. I constantly wonder what are they

doing now. But the answer is, I don't really know, and I don't really care. What I do know is that I'm here learning new ways to reinvent myself every day, and for that I can only be eternally grateful because the things I will experience here will last a lifetime and you can't put a price on that.

Fifty years from now, if I'm anything like my grandfather, I'll probably be telling my grandchildren about the friends I made and the time I spent serving my country one day at a time, in this huge sandbox they call Iraq.

*Proudly serving,
Senior Airman Tim Beckham
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs
Balad Air Base, Iraq*

Camaraderie has new meaning to me now. I think it has something to do with how much time we all spend with each other and how much you can learn about someone else in such a short period of time, but, it's also that feeling of common ground.

‘Dear Roz’

Q: I have a two-part question. First, I understand the implementation schedule has slipped. What's going on? Second, what is the plan for training everyone on the new system?

A: The Department of Defense has slipped the implementation schedule to accommodate a longer meet and confer process with the various unions and in recognition of the follow-on requirement to notify Congress of the final rules. Once those tasks have been accomplished the final rules will be published in the Federal Register and DoD will begin issuing implementing instructions. We anticipate the Defense Department implementing instructions will begin to flow in late summer. If you recall, DoD has been consistent that implementation will be 'event driven' instead of time driven. This approach allows the department to do things in an orderly manner consistent with implementing a logical system. Under the current time line we at the air logistics center will transition to the new Labor Relations rules this September and to the other segments of NSPS in October 2006.

Concerning training we will begin training leaders, managers, and supervisors (civilian and military) on the new Labor Relations rules in the August/September time period. We have reserved the base theater for Aug.

17-19 so we can conduct Labor Relations training; however, we will not begin training until the DoD has trained our Labor Relations officer on the new rules. We may have to adjust our training plan based on the DoD schedule. We'll advertise the requirement for attending Labor Relations training once things clarify. Relative to other training modules we are in the process of identifying the requirements, establishing schedules, locations and determining how best to present the different modules. We will publish guidance once the final training requirements are determined and we have finalized our local schedule. Additionally, the 78th Air Base Wing's training office, in conjunction with WR-ALC/DPD, is also reviewing the New Employee Orientation course, the Supervisory Training Course, and military professional development courses in order to determine how best to incorporate NSPS topics. We expect that in the very near future those training modules will have an NSPS flavor and will become the Center's primary source of recurring NSPS training.

Rosalind ‘Roz’ Overton, NSPS transition assistant, will address employees’ NSPS concerns in the Robins Rev-Up each week. For more information, call Ms. Overton at 926-4023 or visit the NSPS link at www.robins.af.mil.



Rosalind ‘Roz’ Overton is a National Security Personnel System transition assistant.



Col. Greg Patterson
78th Air Base Wing commander

Commander’s
Action Line

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible: Security Forces 327-3445; Services Division 926-5491; EEO Office 926-2131; MEO 926-6608; Employee Relations 926-5802; Military Pay 926-3777; IDEA 926-2536; Base hospital 327-7850; Civil engineering 926-5657; Public Affairs 926-2137; Safety Office 926-6271; Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline 926-2393; Housing Office 926-3776. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 or for the quickest response, e-mail one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account, use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also visit <https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response.

Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up. Anonymous action lines will not be processed.

Civil servants

I came on base with a great deal of pride having been selected for civil service at Robins 24 years ago. I felt like saluting the first day I came on base and still have that same feeling – proud to be here. Has every position I have held or every appraisal I've gotten been what I expected? Has every co-worker been easy to work with? Of course not! But I'm still proud to be working at Robins. Today I began working out at the base gym. Another privilege I'm proud to have and now I'm afforded 3 hours a week to enjoy it. I can't wonder why it's taken so long – I'm just elated it's available, and I can use it. I reviewed the Commander's Action Line Program and find that kudos are seldom sent in – complaints are the majority. Some people submit action lines that have merit and have made a difference in the way we do things. Some action lines make me wonder if the people who submitted them have just stopped and thought how fortunate they are to have such a great place to work.

Commander's reply: Thanks for taking the time to write! It's much more fun handling the positive action lines, but I realize that most folks only write in when they have an issue. Thanks for being so positive about your job here at Robins and your contribution to our national security and continue to voice your satisfaction – we all need to take time to count our blessings every once in a while. Positive folks like you remind us to do that. Have a great day!

AJC

I would like to know if we could get an Atlanta Journal-Constitution newspaper rack at Building 91 parking lot.

Commander's reply:The Atlanta Journal-Constitution currently delivers newspapers to several locations on base: For your convenience they are at buildings 300, 140, 227, the alleyway in between the wings of Building 300 and Building 645, Clinic, and the Base Cafeteria near the flight line. That covers a lot of areas but the contractor has agreed to place a bin near your building (Building 91) for a test period. If he sells enough papers, it will remain. If not, it will be removed. Thanks again for your suggestion and tell your friends.

Military justice

During the period of June 13 through 19, there were no completed actions.

– 78th Air Base Wing Legal Office

653rd CLSS turns unfortunate incident into learning experience

By **HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD**
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

When a bald eagle crossed the path of a C-130E over Washington in late April, it gave a group of White Knights a hands-on lesson in aircraft repair.

The 330th Tactical Airlift Sustainment Group at Robins sent the five-person team of structural maintenance workers, electronic/environmental system workers, and guidance and control specialists from the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron to Gray Army Air Field at Fort Lewis, Wash., to repair more than \$80,000 of damage caused by the bird strike.

Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Johnson, 653rd CLSS aircraft maintenance depot craftsman and team chief for repair of the Idaho Air National Guard plane, said the collision left the group with a four-day repair project unlike others the

squadron had done before. “When the aircraft was on final approach at 2,000 feet, (the crew) saw the bald eagle as they were getting ready to land,” he said. “Basically, they covered their eyes and the bird struck above the pilot’s left knee window, causing some avionics and structural damage, as well as minor damage to the left wing.”

No crew members were hurt. Sergeant Johnson said his crew worked with counterparts at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., and contractors with Lear Siegler Inc. at Fort Lewis to get the plane ready for a one-time flight to Hill Air Force Base, Utah, saving the Air Force about \$14,000 in repair costs.

Staff Sgt. Sean Belding, an aircraft structural maintenance journeyman, said he was excited to take on the new tasking.

“I think it’s neat because it’s work that’s outside of (our normal job),” he said. “We (did)

the research and came up with the repair.”

Staff Sgt. Heath Trupe, an aircraft electrical/environmental systems journeyman on the team, said he felt good about the outcome.

“(This type of repair) is something most of the Air Force doesn’t get to do, usually because they don’t have the time or manning,” he said. “When you get the opportunity (to do this kind of repair), you get to see so much that most don’t get to see. It gives us a chance to do hands-on work with things we don’t normally deal with.”

Senior Master Sgt. Al Goodman, flight chief for the Idaho Air National Guard’s 124th Wing at Gowen Field in Boise, Idaho, was appreciative of the team’s efforts.

“The work they did was great,” he said. “We had a crew chief down there and he said the repair on the window was outstanding.”



Jong Khwan Kim drills a panel for an aircraft battle damage repair.



Seven Koreans are training with the 653rd for F-15 crash damage repair.



Master Sgt. Byong Wook Nam uses a high speed grinder.



Tech. Sgt. Dennis Perine helps Master Sgt. Byong Wook Nam with an aircraft battle damage repair.

DOCTORS ARE IN

653rd CLSS gives Korean Airmen hands-on lesson in aircraft repair

By **HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD**
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

The 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron instructors recently gave a South Korean Air Force group a hands-on lesson in aircraft battle damage repair.

Five military members and two civilian mechanical engineers arrived at Robins in late May as part of the Foreign Military Student Training Program, a month-long course which gives Airmen from different countries a chance to learn more about the repair of F-15 and other aircraft involved in their missions.

Tech. Sgt. Dennis Perine and Tech. Sgt. Brent Mewszel, both 653rd CLSS aircraft battle damage repair instructors, have worked to teach the South Korean troops about overall aircraft battle damage repair history and philosophy, structural maintenance, and electrical, mechanical and fuel maintenance in combat situations – a task Sergeant Perine described as “a foreign experience.”

“The Koreans have some degree of aircraft battle damage repair training,” he said, “but, they’re coming here to get our training to take it back to incorporate it with (the training) they’re already getting.”

Sergeant Mewszel said while South Korean troops underwent an English language proficiency course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the language barrier still presented a challenge in teaching the troops about aircraft repair.

“We’re just trying to give them the best product available,” he said. “We’re giving them the most current information, as far as aircraft battle damage repair goes. At times, it can be challenging teaching the terminology, but we made it work.”

Sergeant Mewszel said with the help of a handheld computerized translator, South Korean troops were able to interpret most terminology they didn’t immediately understand.

“You have to slow down and take your time to ensure they actually comprehend what you’re telling them,” he said.

The South Korean troops weren’t the only ones learning something new.

“As we went along, we talked to (the students) about personal things like their culture and so forth,” Sergeant Mewszel said. “It helped us learn a little more about them and helped put them at ease a little bit more.”

Chief Master Sgt. Tac Soo Kim, a sheet metal and aircraft structural maintenance specialist with the South Korean Air Force’s 15th Wing, who has been to the U.S. through the Foreign Military Student Program three times, said he is appreciative of the opportunity.

“Our teachers, Tech. Sgt. Perine and Tech. Sgt. Mewszel, are very (experienced) and more professional than I’ve seen,” he said. “I’ve learned a lot of things and was reminded of things that had slipped my mind. I’m an expert in sheet metal, and they’ve taught me many things.”

Once troops had put in their eight hours of training each day, they were free to experience the Middle Georgia community – an opportunity made easier by Eugene McGuire, an international military student officer with Stover and Associates Inc., a contractor under the Base Education and Training Office here, who arranged accommodations for the troops.

“We’ve had the education and training contract for nearly five years and this is the first time we’ve actually performed as international military student officers,” he said. “It has been a tremendous learning experience. They’re outstanding people and I’ve enjoyed working with them.”

The South Korean troops will complete their training with the 653rd CLSS in late June.



Chief Master Sgt. Tac Soo Kim listens to Tech. Sgt. Brent Mewszel, a 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron instructor, who recently gave a South Korean Air Force group a hands-on lesson in aircraft battle damage repair.

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

TODAY
A dinner and dance will be held from 6 - 9 p.m. at the Officers' Club. Limited menu and salad bar will be available. Music entertainment will be provided by Bob Cummings.

SATURDAY
A Seniors Club Championship tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday with individual stroke play and net and gross divisions. Entry fee is \$30 for annual green fee players and \$60 for guests. This event is open to all active duty and retired military 50 years of age and older. To register, call the golf course at 926-4103.

The skills development center will hold scroll saw classes from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$10. Registration and payment is required for classes. Classes are subject to change and do not include supply and equipment costs. For more information, call 926-5282.

SUNDAY
A Texas Hold 'Em tournament will be held with sign-ups starting at 2 p.m. and games at 2:15 p.m. Prizes will be given to the winners of the first round session and first through eighth places of the final round. The tournament is limited to the first 64 players. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, call the enlisted club at 926-4515.

The officers' club brunch is available from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with all-you-care-to-enjoy breakfast and dinner entrees. Cost is \$9.95 for members and \$11.95 for nonmembers. For more information, call 926-2670.

MONDAY
No events.

TUESDAY
The Air Force Cadet Officer Mentor Action Program (AFCOMAP) Middle Georgia Chapter, a professional organization dedicated to the mentoring and professional development of all Air Force officers and officer candidates, meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the Daedelion Room of the Officers' Club. More information can be found on Robins homepage under Special Functions.

The Civil Air Patrol is looking for volunteers from the Robins community. Membership is open to citizens age 18 and older, a cadet program is available for kids age 12-18. The Middle Georgia Squadron meets Tuesdays at the Middle Georgia Regional Airport in the ASA training building from 7 to 9 p.m. To find out more, go to www.capnhq.gov, or contact Todd Engelman at 213-4569 or PlaneFlyr@bellsouth.net.

Officers' Christian Fellowship meets Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. at a member's home. OCF serves all active duty officers, enlisted personnel, guard and reserve members, ROTC cadets/midshipmen, international military personnel and civilian employees of military retirees. For more information, contact Capt. Melissa Cunningham at melissa.cunningham@robins.af.mil or 1st Lt. Ann Walsh at ann.walsh@robins.af.mil

WEDNESDAY
The Air Force Aid Society will conduct a Bundles for Babies & Infant Care class 8 a.m. to noon, Building 827, (old base gym) HAWC classroom. Course is for all active duty Air Force families preparing for a new baby.

The family support center's Spouse's Connection will meet 9 to 11 a.m., in Building 945, FSC annex.

Auto shop safety and orientation is held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the skills development center. For more information, call 926-5282.

THURSDAY
The family support center's training for both beginner and experienced sponsors will be 1 to 2:30 p.m., Building 945, FSC annex.
Col. Greg Patterson, 78th Air Base

something good to eat



U.S. Air Force photo

The Altitude Summer Institute group at the Museum of Aviation made s'mores in hand-made solar ovens June 15. The hot weather was perfect for melting chocolate. Wayne Brighthue, left, and DJ Robinson check on their treats.

Wing commander, will host the monthly 78th ABW Enlisted Promotion Ceremony at 3:30 p.m. at the Base Theater. Those being recognized will be notified by their respective first sergeants. Commanders, supervisors, family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Show your unit's pride and spirit; come and join us in congratulating our new promotees. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Sharon Ward at 926-0792.

UPCOMING
The 21st Century Partnership Team Quality Award recognizes outstanding team performance, promotes increased productivity, emphasizes teamwork and continuous improvement including saving and cost avoidance. Nominations will be for the six-month period ending Thursday. The nominations will be scored and the top two teams will make 15-minute oral presentations to the judges at the Museum of Aviation Aug. 5, with the winner announced after the presentations. If anybody is interested in submitting a nominations package or wants more information, call Shirley Maddox at 222-0745.

Tickets for the Fox Theater productions in Atlanta are available at Information, Tickets and Travel, Building 767, until July 1 for "Peter Pan" and until Aug. 20 for "My Fair Lady" for \$56. Performances are scheduled at 2 p.m. July 16 for "Peter Pan" and 2 p.m. Aug. 20 for "My Fair Lady."

Bingo players could win \$1,000, \$2,500 or \$5,000 at the Services Joint Forces Bingo grand opening July 5 in the east wing of the enlisted club. Doors open with bar bingo at 5 p.m., and games begin at 7:15 p.m. Quick shot games will be played throughout the day beginning at 10 a.m. The first 100 customers will receive a free souvenir T-shirt. Waitress services and complimentary snacks will be available. The enlisted club and base restaurant have combined bingo programs to form the Services Joint Forces bingo. The Joint Forces bingo will be located in the east wing of the enlisted club, and the hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with bar bingo at 6 p.m. and games at 7:15 p.m. Games will begin Sundays at 2:45 p.m. Eligible bingo players include anyone with an active duty, reserve, guard or retired or military base identification, DoD civilians or family base identification card. The entry fee is free to

all Robins club members, bona fide guests and active duty or retired widows and \$5 for eligible non-club members. Look in today's Rev-Up for a \$5 bingo coupon to redeem July 5 - 10, 2005. For more information, call Teresa Resta at 926-1303.

Yard sales will be held at the Smith Community Center, Building 767, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 9 and Aug. 13. Cost of tables is \$7 each and should be paid for on the Saturday prior to the event. Tables can be set up beginning at 7 a.m. To make reservations, visit the ITT office, Building 767.

Youth fall sports registration will be held July 9 - 16 for tackle football, flag football, cheerleading and fall soccer. Hours to register will be Monday - Friday, 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Coaches are needed in all areas. To register or for details, visit the youth center in Building 1021.

Robins Officers' and Enlisted Club members and their families may apply for the Air Forces Services eighth annual club membership scholarship program, sponsored by MasterCard and Chase Bank. Air Force-wide six scholarships will be awarded: first prize, \$6,000; second, \$5,500; third, \$4,500; fourth, \$3,500; fifth, \$3,000 and sixth, \$2,500. Based on the number of club members at Robins, this year two nominees can be selected from each club. Nominees must provide an essay of no more than 500 words on "My Hero, and Why." Essays exceeding 500 words (excluding title) will be disqualified. Participant must also provide a single-page summary of their long-term career goal and accomplishments. Essays must be typed in 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font, single-spaced, with double-spacing between paragraphs, and submitted on standard white bond paper with one-inch margins. Nominations are due to Services Marketing in Building 983 by July 15. For additional information, go to www.p.afsv.af.mil/clubs or call 926-5492. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

Information, Tickets and Travel has 7th Annual Al Sihah Shrine Rodeo tickets for July 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. at the Shrine Park, Macon. Ticket costs: adults \$10 and children \$5.

"Shoot for the Stars" basketball camp will be held July 18 - 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the youth center gym. Cost is \$55

per youth. The camp is led by Michael Douglas, former Harlem Globetrotter. Youth spend the week with special guest professional athletes and former members of the Harlem Globetrotters and former NBA players. The camp is geared toward teaching fundamentals of basketball for kids 7 to 14 years old. Extended day care is available from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Call the center for reservations. Cost is \$95 per week and includes breakfast, lunch, and instructional camp along with recreational activities during the afternoon. A \$10 deposit is required to sign up. The camp is open to the first 100 children. For more information, call Ron Hayes at 926-2110.

Hook Up 2 Bowling will be held July 25, 27 and 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Robins Lanes Bowling Center. This clinic includes group instruction and on-lane lessons by pro bowler Mr. Jeff Herman. Those who complete the program will receive a bowling ball, bag and towel. The cost is \$99 for adults and \$69 for children 17 and younger. For more information, call the bowling center at 926-2112.

Let's Celebrate Summer Bash will be held at Robins Park Aug. 6 from 4 to 9 p.m. This event will include rides, games, prize drawings and fireworks. For more information, call the community center at 926-2105.

ONGOING
Parents who are new to and reside on base may register their children in Robins Elementary School during the summer months. The school is open from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily for registration. School starts Aug. 9. To be eligible for kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1. For first grade, a child must be 6 years old on or before Sept. 1. To be eligible for pre-kindergarten, a student must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1. Students entering school for the first time are required to present a birth certificate, social security number for the student and immunization records. More specific information can be obtained by calling the school at 926-5003. All children between the ages of 7 and 16 are required to attend school in Georgia.

Open bowling is back on Mondays for \$1.50; Wednesdays - Fridays after 5 p.m. for \$2.50; and Saturdays and Sundays for \$2.50. Kids 12 years old and younger bowl for \$1.25 with paid adult.

Get into the fun during the Race & Roll bowling league now through Sept. 2. Bowl 15 sessions between now and Sept. 2 whenever lanes are available to receive an exclusive NASCAR driver leather jacket. Cost is \$15 per session.

The bowling Stars and Strikes program is going on now through Aug. 14. Pick up a three-level punch card to start earning rewards. For more information, call the center at 926-2112.

Purchase pool passes at equipment rental, Building 914: daily pass, \$2; single - E4 and below, \$20; single - E5 and above/officers/civilian, \$30; family - E4 and below, \$45 and family - E5 and above/officers/civilian, \$55. For more information, call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

Outdoor recreation is taking reservations for private swim parties at officers' club and enlisted club pools. For more information, call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

Atlanta Braves VIP ticket sheets, which are valued over \$400, are available at Information, Tickets and Travel for \$50 a sheet. The sheets include four free tickets, eight home game buy-one get-one free ticket. The tickets are valid for all home games, excluding the July 4 game. Coupons are redeemable at Atlanta Braves Ticket office.

The Thrift Shop is taking donations on consignment. The shop is located on Page Road, Building 288, just inside gate 5. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

To have an item listed, send it to Angela Trunzo at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil by 4 p.m. Monday prior to the Friday of intended publication.

NOW PLAYING



Adult tickets are \$3.50; children 11 years old and younger tickets are \$2. Movies start at 7:30 p.m., unless noted. For more information, call the Base Theater at 926-2919.



TODAY
Monster-in-Law
Jennifer Lopez
Jane Fonda
Unlucky in love, Charlie has finally met the man of her dreams. There's just one problem - his mother Viola. Overbearing, controlling and volatile, she has recently been canned from her job as a star news anchor. Fearing she will lose her son's affections as she has lost her career, she decides to break up the couple by becoming the world's worst mother-in-law. The gloves come off when Charlie finally decides to fight back and it looks like Viola has finally met her match.
Rated PG-13 (sex references and language) 96 minutes

SATURDAY
Kingdom of Heaven
Orlando Bloom
Eva Green
Balian is mourning the death of his wife and baby when his father arrives and asks him to join the Crusades in Jerusalem. Balian agrees, and embarks on the perilous journey. Along the way, he reveals his gifts of inherent goodness and fair treatment of all human beings. Upon reaching Jerusalem, Balian earns respect.
Rated R (strong violence and epic warfare) 145 minutes

COMING SOON
July 1, 2 - **Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith**
July 8 - **The Longest Yard**
July 9 - **Kicking and Screaming**

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic
Catholic masses are held at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and at a 5 p.m. vigil the day before, and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Islamic
Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumuah) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

Jewish
Jewish service is Fridays at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.

Orthodox Christian
St. Innocent Orthodox Church service is at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Protestant
General services take place Sundays at 11 a.m. The service includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and format. Protestant inspirational services take place Sundays at 8 a.m. Contemporary services take place 11 a.m. Sundays at the Base Theater. This service is informal and includes traditional and contemporary styles of music and worship.

The chapel helps with spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

DONATE YOUR LEAVE

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an

approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, wings should send information to Angela Trunzo at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil.

Submissions run for two weeks.
Berry D. Jordan, WR-ALC/CCD. Point of contact is Cheryl McNeil-Jordan at 926-3840.

Tops Airmen tapped for NBA championship

SAN ANTONIO -- Airmen with the Air Force's premier expeditionary entertainment troupe, Tops In Blue, sang the national anthem before game 6 of the National Basketball Association finals here Tuesday. Eighteen vocalists from the 2005 Tops In Blue team performed the anthem before the nationally televised game between the Detroit Pistons and the San Antonio Spurs.



U.S. Air Force photo by GARY LOTT

Being smart with money while deployed

By **SENIOR AIRMAN SHAUN EMERY**
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AFPN) – While deployed, Airmen receive many entitlements. They receive combat zone tax exclusion, \$225 hostile fire pay per month, \$3.50 per diem and for those with families, \$250 family separation allowance per month. Airmen who live in dormitories at their home station also receive basic allowance for housing.

All totaled, these entitlements can add up to thousands of dollars over the span of a deployment rotation. Airmen with deployed finance offices are here to help with financial questions, but every Airman is responsible for keeping up to date with their bills, said Maj. William McGraw, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing finance chief.

“It’s important that every person check his or her leave and earnings statement each pay period,” Major McGraw said. “If there is a problem, the finance office will do everything it can to solve it, whether it’s calling a home station finance office or the member’s first sergeant.”

The ramifications of missing a mistake could become very serious if a deployed Airman is getting paid too much or not enough, Major McGraw said.

“If you’re getting too much in your check and finance finds the mistake, the money will be immediately taken out,” Major McGraw said. “On the flip side, if there is not as much money as someone planned, they may write a check and won’t have the funds to cover it. If you have a wife and children at home, they may not have the money to buy groceries. If you start worrying about that, you won’t be able to

focus on the mission at hand.”

Along with checking to make sure there are no mistakes in their military pay, deployed Airmen also have the opportunity to participate in the uniformed services savings deposit plan.

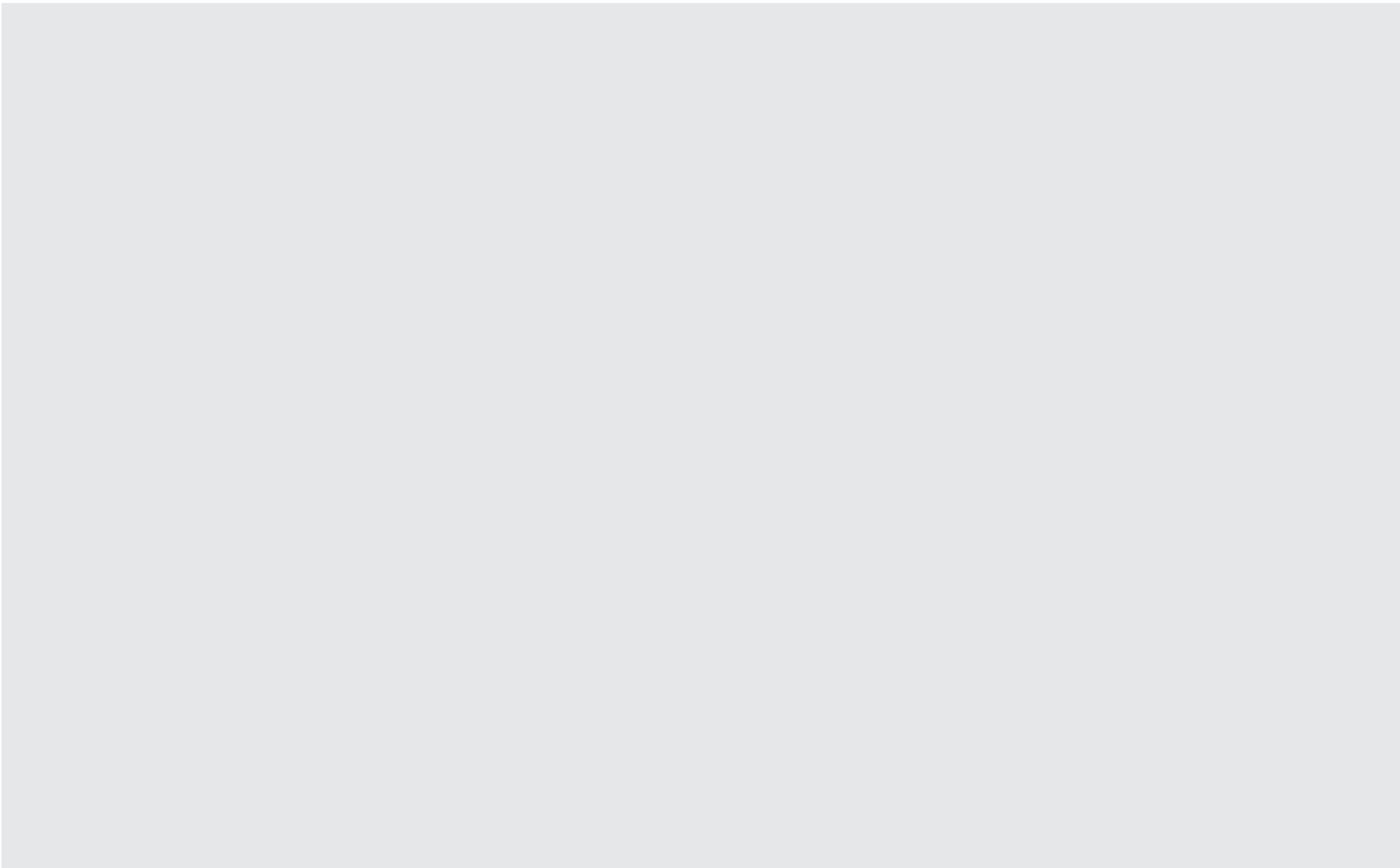
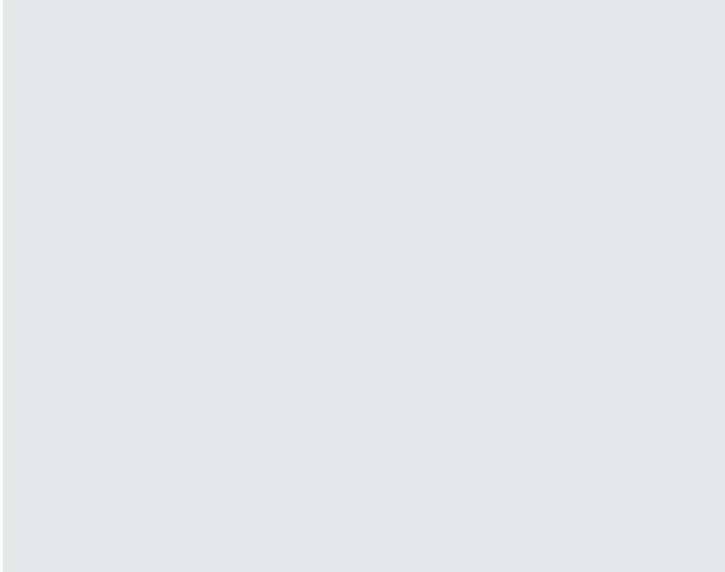
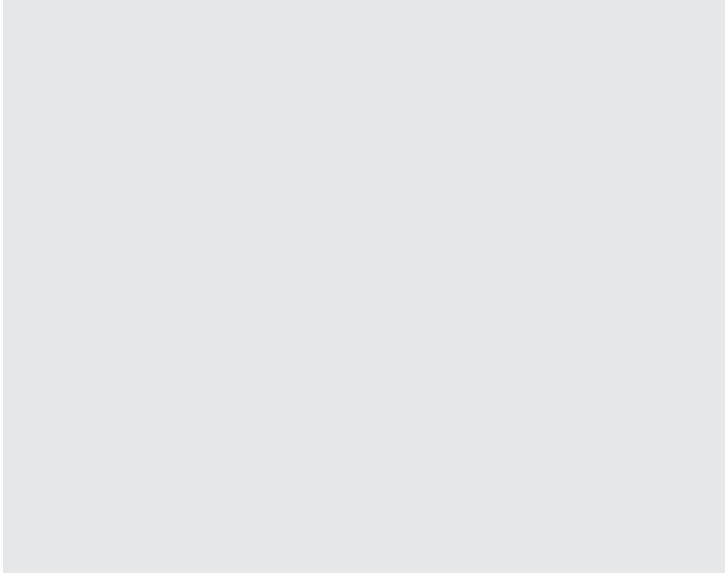
This plan allows Airmen to deposit up to \$10,000 and receive 10 percent annual interest on their investment. The money must be withdrawn 90 days after the end of their deployment. The finance office can assist Airmen with setting up an account.

“Most regular savings accounts offer interest rates of 1 to 2 percent,” Major McGraw said. “If you are keeping your

money in a checking account, you’re not making anything.”

One way for Airmen to stay proactive in their finances is by filling out their accrual vouchers as soon as possible. Many Airmen use their government travel card to cover expenses entering the area of responsibility, and the accrual voucher will transfer the necessary funds to their travel card, Major McGraw said.

“The balance needs to be paid,” he said. “Even though (Airmen are) deployed, they’re still responsible for paying that bill. If a person goes four months and doesn’t pay it off, (he or she) could face serious repercussions.”



PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER FOR ...

The "Put your hands together for..." feature is a monthly installment to the Robins Rev-Up. Due to the overwhelming number of awards people at Robins receive, we just aren't able to cover them all. This feature is our way of ensuring we give credit where we can. The installment runs in the last issue published each month.

► 99th ARS earns AMC's top boom operator award

By **HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD**
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Boom operators from the 99th Air Refueling Squadron have shown that hard work and dedication both on and off duty pay off - and they have the trophy to prove it.

The squadron's 34 boom operators recently earned Air Mobility Command's 2004 Albert L. Evans Outstanding Refueling Section of the Year Award - an honor given to the squadron with the highest level of professionalism both on and off duty.

Master Sgt. Tom Rice, boom operator superintendent, said it takes a lot to make it to the top.

"You have to have a strong squadron of boom operators that are recognized not only for what they do on duty, but off duty as well," he said. "You have to have professionalism and dedication to duty - the whole nine yards."

The award is the first of its

To have an award included in the "Put your hands together for..." page, submit a brief write up of the award and the people who have earned it. Photos may also be submitted, but space is limited.

Submissions should be sent either by e-mail or brought to the Rev-Up office, Suite 106, Building 215.

kind for the squadron, according to Tech. Sgt. David Stadnicki, 99th ARS in-flight refueling evaluator.

"It takes 110 percent commitment from each and every boom operator in the squadron," he said. "You have to prove you're the best air refueling section in the Air Force. There's tough competition out there, and we came out on top."

Sergeant Stadnicki said while the squadron's operational tempo has remained high since the War on Terrorism began in 2001, the Black Knights have maintained their service to their country as well as their community.

"Since 9/11, the air refueling squadrons Air Force-wide have been heavily tasked," he said. "We, at Robins, managed to handle numerous taskings, to include deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom,

Submissions that are brought to the office should be in Microsoft Word on a disk. Photos can be e-mailed or delivered to the office too.

For more information, contact Geoff Janes at geoff.janes@robins.af.mil or Angela Trunzo at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil. Either can be reached by phone at 926-2137.

while continuing to fly Noble Eagle sorties for homeland defense, medical evacuations throughout the continental U.S. and Pacific regions. All the while, the boom operators have found time to give to the community as well through Big Brother, Big Sister programs, Toys for Tots and Habitat for Humanity."

Col. Steven Bernard, 19th ARG commander, said the award is well deserved.

"The 19th Air Refueling Group Black Knights are extremely proud of our boom operators for earning the distinction of 'The Best Air Refueling Section in (the) Air Mobility Command,'" he said. "This recognition is a testament to the hard work of our enlisted aviators, both deployed and at home. It also acknowledges the professionalism and technical expertise of every boom operator in the 99th ARS."

► ASMC scholarship winners

The Middle GA Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) is pleased to announce the results of its 2004-2005 high school scholarship competition. This year's recipients are Justin R. Stewart and Dane J. Kalejta.

The \$1,200 Clyde O. Bloodworth Distinguished Scholarship was awarded to Mr. Stewart. Justin graduated from Bleckley County High School with a 4.0 GPA and was ranked No. 3 in his graduating class. He was honored as the 2005 STAR Student for Bleckley County and was inducted into the Who's Who Among American High School Students Society.

In addition to receiving the local ASMC scholarship award, Justin was also selected to receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the ASMC National Scholarship



Justin R. Stewart



Dane J. Kalejta

Board. Justin will use these scholarships to attend Middle Georgia College this fall to pursue a degree in Business Administration. His career goal is to be an independent business owner.

The Middle GA chapter's \$1,000 Meritorious Scholarship was awarded to Mr. Kalejta. Dane graduated from Warner Robins High School with a 3.93 GPA and

was ranked in the top 5 percent of his graduating class. Apart from his academic achievements, Dane also excelled in a variety of athletic sports, community service projects, and faith based services. Dane distinguished himself as an officer in the Math Club, a coach/manager for the U-6 Soccer Team, a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Youth Ministry, and as a member of Teen Council. He will attend the Georgia Institute of Technology this fall to pursue a degree in Computer Engineering. His career goal is to work with the U.S. Armed Forces to improve technology related to military equipment.

► Robins Elementary School graduation



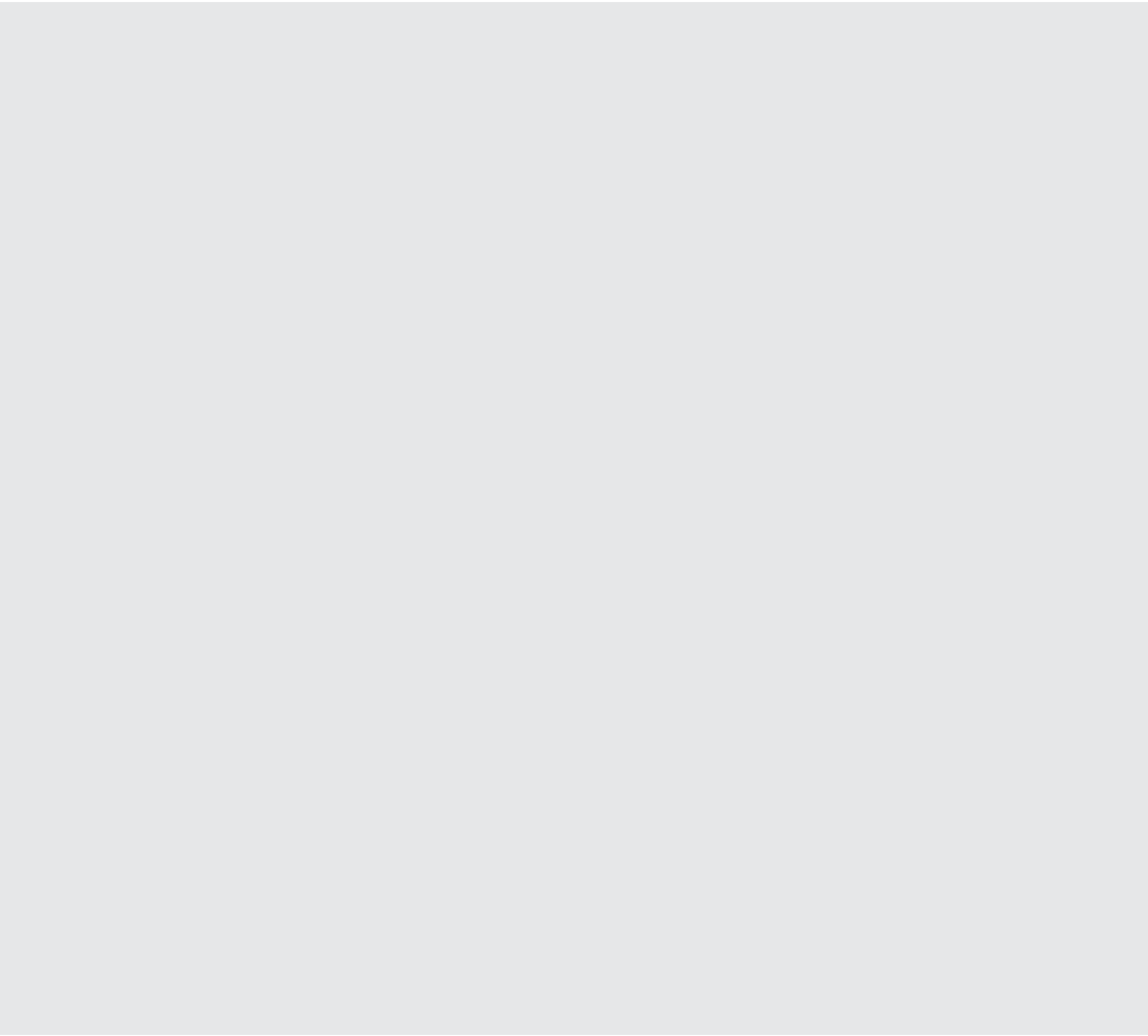
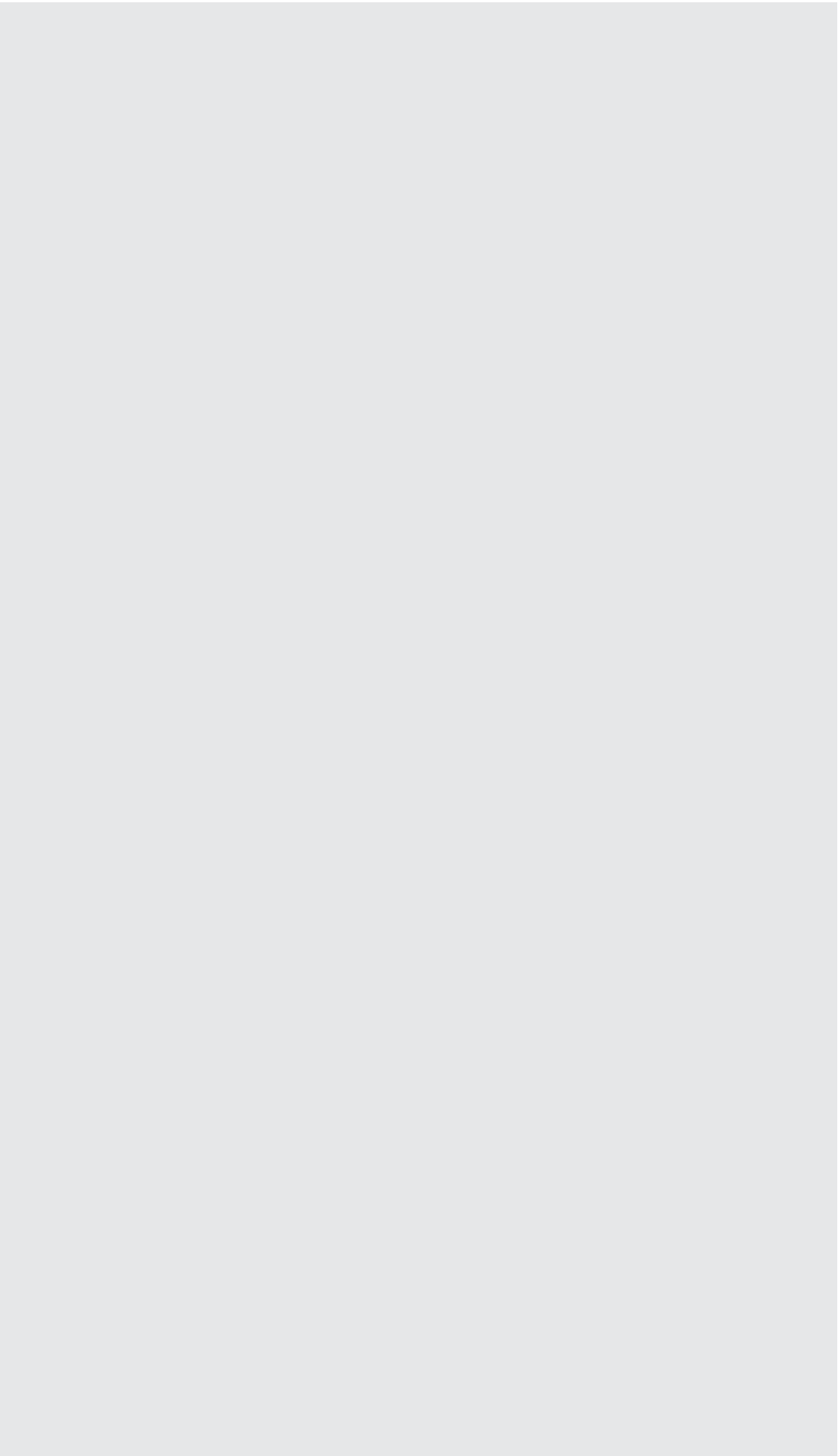
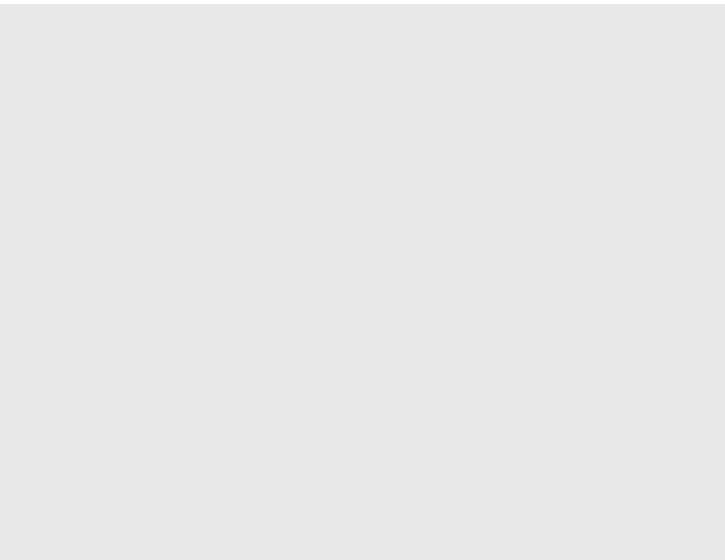
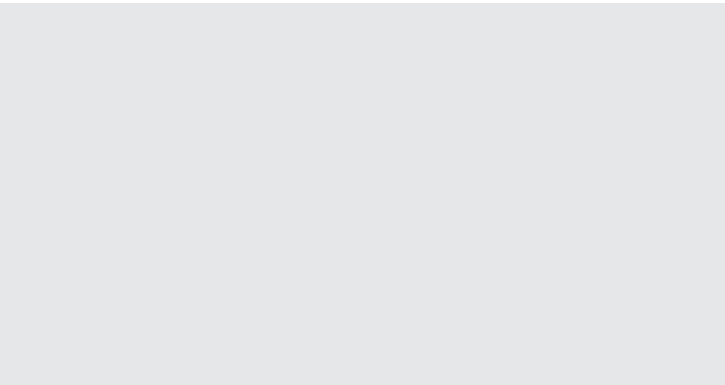
Courtesy photo

Forty-nine sixth graders, including five sets of twins, graduated from Robins Elementary School June 7 at the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight hangar.

► Retirements

As of June 6

- Betty J. Adams
- Victor Arce Jr.
- James L. Bailey
- John L. Bailey
- Elizabeth L. Bode
- John D. Carroll
- Eric G. Chandler
- Frederick Darden
- George H. Graves, Jr.
- Jimmy Gregory
- Hazel Holly
- Fern E. Looney
- Michael T. Meeks
- Joseph T. Mullis
- Miriam W. Mizell
- Franklin L. Monroe
- Stephen M. Neal
- Linda Ann Osborne
- Stephen R. Parsons
- Betty A. Pubanz
- James A. Roeder
- Donald L. Rooks
- James L. Shealy
- Patricia A. Tomlin
- Robert B. Trevino
- Ronald E. Williams



Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve to perform at Independence Day celebration July 1

By TECH. SGT. JESSICA WELLES

The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve will perform at the 22nd annual Independence Day Celebration July 1 at the McConnell-Talbert Stadium on South Davis Drive in Warner Robins.

The free concert will also feature Warner Robins native Bobbie Eakes, an accomplished soap opera star and recording artist, for a night of music, fireworks and family fun.

The stadium will open to the public at 6 p.m. Festivities will begin at 7:15 with the Houston County Honor Band, comprised of select musicians from the county’s four high schools. Mary Therese of WMAZ-TV 13 will host the main stage show starting at 8.

The stadium bleachers offer plenty of seating; however, attendees are welcome to bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating in the infield. Food and beverages will be available at concession stands.

Bags and containers are subject to search since alcoholic beverages are prohibited at this family event.

“This may be the best Independence Day observance in the state,” said Allen Tatman of the Warner Robins Civitan Club. “Thanks to the generosity of local businesses, and the talent of the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, we have a



U.S. Air Force file photo

Southern rock group, Stillwater, shared the stage with the Band of the United States Air Force Reserve at last year’s Independence Day celebration.

tremendous celebration, featuring special guest artists and a fireworks display that gets bigger and better every year. Bring the kids, and enjoy a great show.”

Mr. Tatman encourages people to watch the show from inside the stadium as the fireworks are set to music, which “makes the spectacular display that much more stirring and enjoyable to watch.”

The concert is sponsored by Robins Federal Credit Union; Golden Key Realty; the Boeing Company; National Security Associates; TAMSCO (an ESSI Company); Flint Energies; Fairfield Financial; the Middle Georgia Newspaper Group; WMAZ-TV 13; WDEN FM-99; Cox Communications; Mid-

State RV; and the Warner Robins Civitan Club. (No federal endorsement is intended or implied).

Ms. Eakes is a graduate of Warner Robins High School and a former Miss Georgia. Currently, she hosts the “Top 20 Country Countdown” for the Great American Country cable TV network and stars in ABC TV’s “All My Children” as Krystal Carey.

She has also starred on “The Bold and the Beautiful” and had an international hit, “Tired of Loving This Way,” with country music superstar Collin Raye. Her debut solo CD “Something Beautiful” was released in May. Sharing the stage with her will be classmate and friend, Sebie Lacy of Stillwater.

